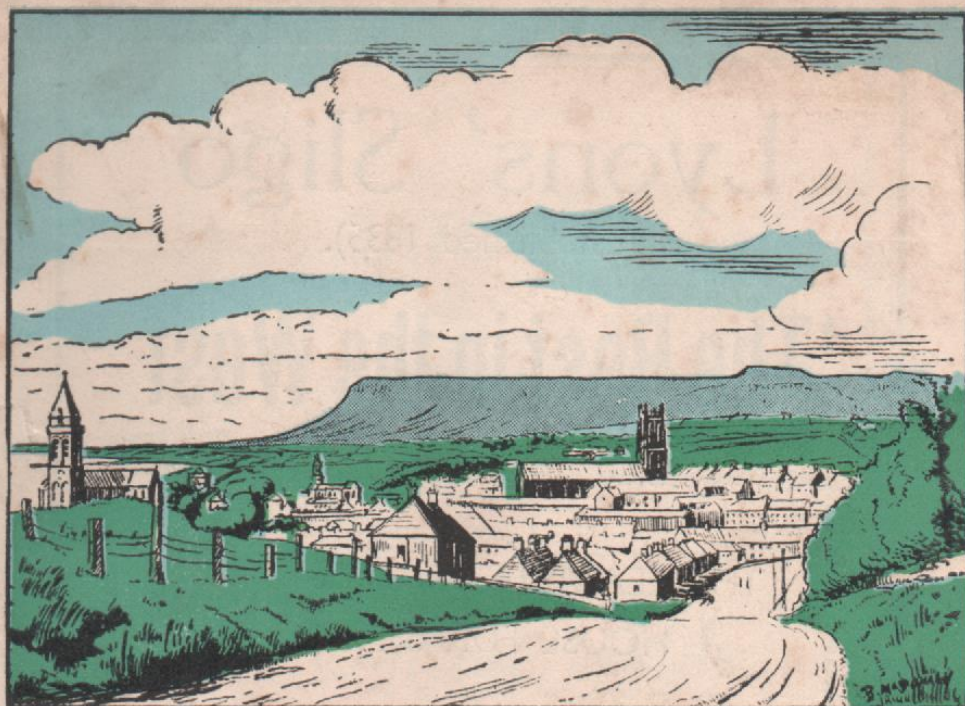


Sligo the Yeats Country 1952 Official Guide to Sligo City and County
Sligo Tourist Development Association Limited.



GUIDE TO SLIGO



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SLIGO

THE YEATS COUNTRY

The Official Guide

CITY & COUNTY

Published under the auspices of the Sligo
Tourist Development Association
Limited.

1952

Printed by The Champion Publications, Ltd.,
Wine Street, Sligo.

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THE SLIGO TOURIST DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION LTD.

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INTRODUCTION

*"Sligo at last : Beautiful descent into : Beautiful town
and region altogether."*

Thus the great Carlyle, and Beauty indeed is the key-note of this Guide.

For, nowhere perhaps in all of Ireland is to be found such diversity of scenery, of lake, of sea, of mountain and of plain.

And certainly nowhere in Ireland can be viewed such profusion of Beauty within such a relatively compact area.

From this viewpoint alone the County of Sligo is unique and offers to the visitor everything that can be desired. A land of Lake, Sea and Mountains with a charming County Capital, Sligo will give you a hearty Céad Mile Fáilte to the West.

As a measure of assistance we have produced this Guide and now offer it as an up-to-date reference book of the County and Borough.

**The Sligo Tourist Development
Association Limited.**

Sligo.
4th December, 1951.

THE YEATS COUNTRY

County Sligo has an intimate connection with the poet W. B. Yeats who is undoubtedly Ireland's greatest poet. Yeats is assured of an immortality of fame, and had the honour of being awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1923. His early years were spent at Drumcliffe where his grandfather was rector. He died in the South of France in 1939 and, in accordance with his wishes, his body was brought back for re-burial, in September, 1948, in Drumcliffe Churchyard, " 'neath bare Benbulbin's head " as the poet himself expressed it.

Yeats never forgot the beautiful Sligo countryside he had roamed as a boy and the many placenames woven into his poems testify to the powerful formative influence of the years he spent in Sligo.

Lovers of his work will want to visit **Drumcliffe** (5 miles from Sligo on the Bundoran road) ; **Dooney Rock** (2 miles from Sligo along the south shore of **Lough Gill**) ; **Slish Wood** (2 miles further along the same road) ; **Innisfree**, the lake isle, may be seen from the main Sligo-Dromahaire road where it skirts the north-eastern shore of Lough Gill.



O'CONNELL STREET, SLIGO

—Photo : I.T.A.

Sligo City

OF all the cities and towns in Ireland, none perhaps, is so favourably situated as SLIGO. For, placed in the heart of the scenic beauties of the County, Sligo offers, what so few other cities can offer, a glorious hinterland and countless places of charm and interest within easy striking distance of the city nearby and in every direction.

SLIGO lies between Lough Gill and the sea on a level, wooded area. It is situated on the Garavogue River and is surrounded by mountains on every point of the compass.

Of population 12,565, it is a city of busy streets and bright, prosperous shops. In fact per capita and excluding the Metropolis it is probably the most up-to-date shopping centre in the Republic.

SLIGO HARBOUR is the most important in the North-West of Ireland, and is undergoing an extensive scheme of improvements.

SLIGO FISHERY—The fisheries of Sligo have down the centuries been noted for their great value, and in particular for their salmon. The salmon here are fished from New Year's Day.

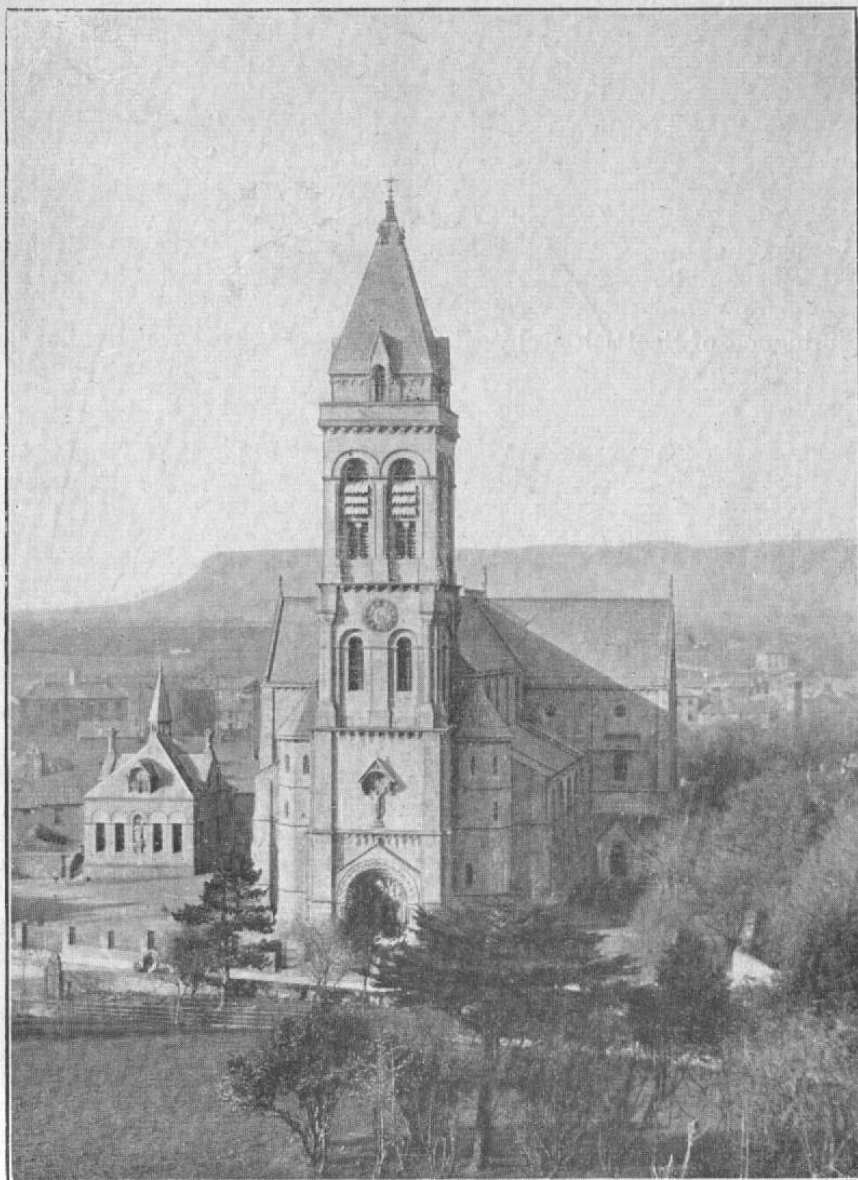
COMMUNICATIONS—Sligo is the terminus of three transport companies. The fine and rebuilt Railway Station is the terminus for the various important lines viz.: East to Dublin, South to Galway and Limerick, and North-East to Enniskillen and Northern Ireland. The former lines are under control of C.I.E. and the latter under the Sligo, Leitrim and Northern Counties Railway.

The Railway Terminus serves also as a starting point for all buses under the control of C.I.E. Long distance buses ply to Dublin, Galway, Athlone, Ballina, etc. Regular local services are to Strandhill and Rosses Point.

The Great Northern Railway operates its Bus Service from its headquarters opposite the Town Hall. This serves Bundoran, Ballyshannon, Portnoo, Donegal Town, Derry, North County Sligo, etc.

The S.L.N.C. Railway operates buses starting from Gray's Inn and serving the Dromahaire and Manorhamilton areas.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION—For the Urban Area control is exercised by the Sligo Corporation, one of the longest established bodies in the country. The fine Town Hall stands in



SLIGO CATHEDRAL

Quay Street and is reckoned to be one of the finer examples of municipal architecture in Ireland. The Town Hall was built in 1864 on the site of an old fortress. The building is two-storey, with central tower, of polychrome masonry, in the Lombardo style.

The Courthouse in Teeling Street is the seat of the various Courts held in Sligo and is also the seat of the administration of the local government of the County. The Body in control over matters appertaining to the area outside the Borough is the Sligo County Council. The facade to Teeling Street, of the Courthouse and County offices, is the most recently built part of the building, having been built in 1878 of limestone with sandstone dressings. The picturesque circular turrets show influence of Scottish architecture. The composition is dominated by an octagonal five-storey tower crowned with steeply pitched roof.

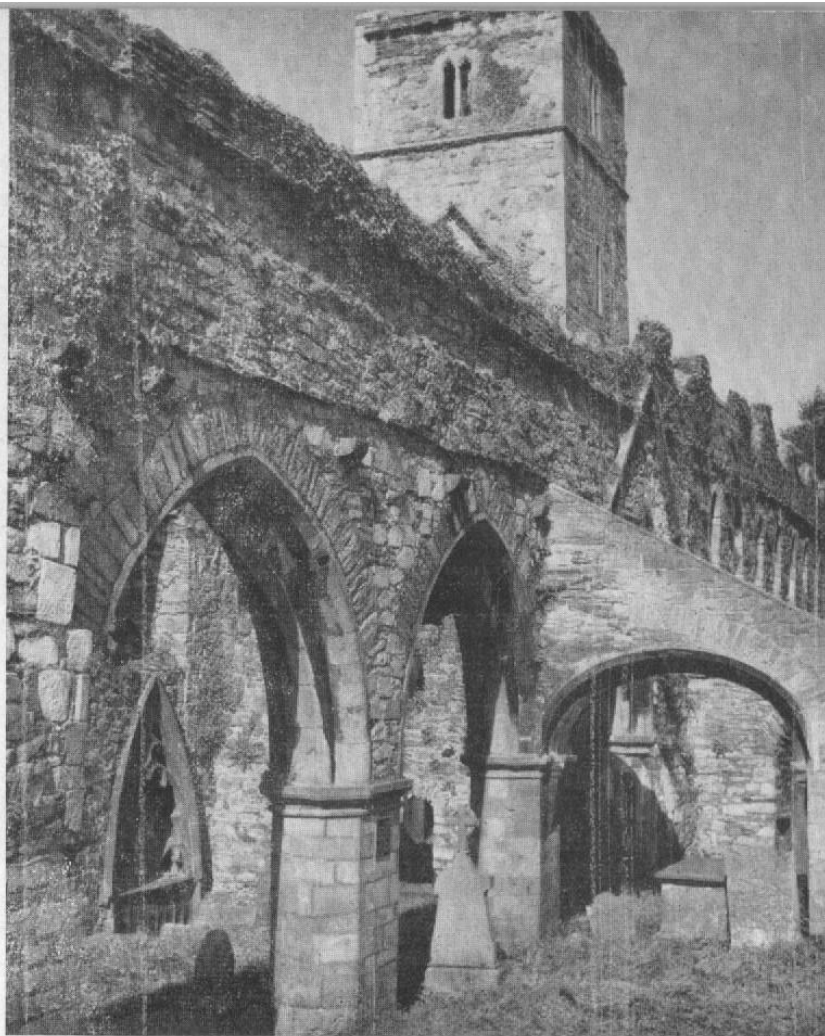
PLACES OF INTEREST IN SLIGO

THE DOMINICAN ABBEY was founded by Maurice Fitzgerald, Earl of Kildare, in 1252. It was burned in 1414 and re-built in 1416. It was destroyed in the sack of Sligo in 1641. The existing remains are:—(1) Choir—13th century, with 15th century East window, with 16th century altar beneath; (2) Tower of the church, of later date, 58' 0" high. (3) Large portion of the nave, partly 16th century; (4) Transept; (5) Cloisters. The Western side of the ambulatory surrounding the cloister garth has disappeared. The cloister pillars are double-shafted and closely spaced. There are also remains of the domestic buildings.

SLIGO CATHEDRAL—The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception was built in 1870, of limestone, in the Norman style. It is cruciform in plan, with apse on the North. The nave is vaulted. There is a triforium gallery over the side aisles. Over the South doorway is a lofty bell tower, containing an excellent carillon of bells.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH was erected in 1635 by Sir Roger Jones, Knight Governor of Sligo Castle. The chancel, in decorated Gothic, was built in 1812 and the church was re-fitted in 1883. There is a small square tower on the West side. The tower, nave, side aisles and chancel form an attractive composition.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH, High Street, was erected in 1848. It is a rectangular building in Perpendicular Gothic, with a square tower on the East facade. The floor and the walls to roof level in the Sanctuary are carried out in mosaic.



SLIGO ABBEY.

—Photo : I.T.A.

CALRY CHURCH situated in an ideal location on The Mall presents a fine view, particularly from the opposite side of the Garavogue. Built in 1823, it is in Perpendicular Gothic style and has a steeple with broach spire on the East side.

OTHER CHURCHES are the Presbyterian Church in Charles Street, the Methodist Church in Wine Street and the former Independent Church in Stephen Street.

SLIGO POST OFFICE placed in the most prominent position in the City at the North end of O'Connell Street, was built in 1902.

THE GILLOOLY HALL (1903) is a Temperance Hall erected to the memory of Dr. Gillooly (a late Bishop of Elphin) from the designs of Mr. Kilgannon, in the Late Renaissance style.

The accommodation comprises large meeting hall, with barrel-vaulted coffered ceiling and ancillary recreation rooms and committee rooms.

ST. MARY'S PRESBYTERY recently rebuilt is the residence of the Bishop of Elphin and parochial clergy and is an impressive building placed in its own grounds near the Cathedral.

SUMMERHILL COLLEGE (1892) is built on an elevation near St. Mary's and commands a fine view of Sligo. Recently and extensively improved it is the major secondary school in the area for boys.

SLIGO GRAMMAR SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS situated on The Mall provide secondary education and are widely recognised as first-class educational establishments.

URSULINE CONVENT (1850) provides secondary education for Girls and primary education for girls and boys, as does the MERCY CONVENT (1846).

MODEL SCHOOL on The Mall is a finely constructed building, and provides primary education. It also houses the COUNTY LIBRARY.

THE NAZARETH CONVENT and the Residence of the MARIST BROTHERS are two prominent buildings in the Western portion of the City.

BANK HOUSES—There are six of these, viz., Royal, Hibernian, Provincial, National and Ulster Banks and the Bank of Ireland. All are finely designed.

LOUGH GILL AND ENVIRONS

Lough Gill is a lake of surpassing beauty and equals Killarney in its loveliness. It is surrounded on three sides by picturesque, wooded mountains, and should be first item on the list of any intending sightseer.

It may be explored by road or water and preferably by both methods.

By Road—The main Dublin road should be taken as far as Carraroe (1 mile from Sligo) where the left fork leads to **Lakeview** and **Aughamore** where the first vista of the lake unfolds. Passing Aughamore, on the shore stands **Dooney Rock** whence a fine view of Lough Gill may be obtained. This landmark was made famous by Yeats in his poem "The Fiddler of Dooney."

Passing up the "Long Stretch" between Slish and Slieve Daene Mountains with a superb view of the former, the road



LOUGH GILL

Photo : Toher's Studio.

branches left again at Correa Crossroads, and passes through rocky terrain until Dromahaire is reached.

Proceeding through Dromahaire the complete circuit of the lake may be made over the main Sligo-Dromahaire road which closely follows the Northern shores of Lough Gill. Excellent views are always present of the lake, until the road bears away from the lake near the Deer Park Hill. And thence to Sligo through continuously and prettily wooded country.

By Water—The two miles of upper stretches of the **Garavogue River** connecting Sligo to Lough Gill can scarcely be surpassed for sylvan beauty. To the North is the forested estate of **Hazelwood** and to the South the demense of **Cleveragh** and the wooded heights of **Cairns Hill**.

The "Narrows" where river meets lake lead to Lough Gill itself and its wooded islands. Church Island is the largest and contains the ruins of a 6th century Church. Cottage Island likewise contains the ruins of an old church and is of fine beauty. Farther along the lake is "the lake isle of Innisfree" immortalised by Yeats in his poem of that name.

The lake is five miles long by a mile and a half broad

and provides an almost inexhaustible store of treasures for the visitor. The views of the mountains to the North and Slieve Wood and Slieve Daene to the South are superb.

Holy Well—At Tobernalt is a spot of particular reverence in the **Holy Well**. The stone altar was used in penal days, and a rustic set of Stations of the Cross is positioned through its woodland setting. The Holy Well is best reached via the Cleeveagh Road, $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile from the Courthouse on the Dublin Road. Veering at that point left the road leads straight to Tobernalt and presents some fine views.

This latter road passes hard by **Cairns Hill** from whose wooded heights one of the best panoramas of the lake may be had, and on whose heights are many ancient stone remains.

Not far from **Colga Lake** on the main Dromahaire Road, is the **Lough Gill Loop**, a road winding into the hills overlooking the lake. In this vicinity are the seats of **Clogherevagh** and **Holywell**.

On the very lakeside approximately half-way along the main road to Dromahaire stands the ancient fortress, Newtown or Parke's Castle. In an excellent state of preservation it may be explored on obtaining the keys from a nearby custodian.

PRE-HISTORY AND PURPLE HEATHER

NOTES OF ANTIQUITIES OF COUNTY SLIGO

By P. J. TOHALL, ESQ.

KNOCKNAREA AND ITS PENINSULA

Without leaving the streets of Sligo the tourist can feel the thrill of dim pre-history when he glances at the great Carn of Queen Meáv which crowns the hill of Knocknarea. The modest mound of distant view is really an acre in extent dominating the two Bays of Ballisodare and Sligo which it separates. Whether her bones repose there or elsewhere, the name is fittingly allied to the majestic pyramid of stone which still holds its secret, for as it rules the view for hundreds of miles, it emulates Meáv the great Bronze-Age Queen of days when the Irish mines were the focus of the British Isles and their Queen's name resounded as the English "Mab" and the Welsh "Maud."

Go out from Sligo to encircle Knocknarea, take the Magheraboy road (the continuation of John Street). Passing the Railway Bridge take the second turn to the left for a view of the surviving Dolmens of the eighty odd which once dotted the plain, monuments of the Bronze Age of the last thousand years

B.C., each site with its final stone table resting on attendant boulders. Barbarous? No, for the modern scientist can still search vainly for the magic gift that enabled the Dolmen people to locate nearly all the mineral wealth of the earth, whether Irish gold, Cornish tin, or Rhodesian copper. But in tomb-building these colonists showed appreciation of the Irish natives for this whole Dolmen field centres round the earlier Stone-Age Carn of Listohil, which ruled elevated among them till the wall-builders of the last century despoiled this monarch of the Knocknahunur plain, and left its ground flat, with nothing visible but the box-like underground tomb, whose rectangular shape distinguishes it from the Dolmens.

THE DEERPARK OF MAGHERAHANRUSH

You can make a pleasant outing and view the glory of this still earlier Stone-Age (prior to 1,000 B.C.) by a visit to the "Deerpark" in the townland of Magherahanrush (Machaire-Chun-Ruis). Ask for the direct road to Manorhamilton via More-ráh. Half a mile East of Calry R.C. Church you reach the Deerpark. Leave the car; turn right through the gate and wander up the track till you come near the next field. Now turn left and slightly back till you see the ring of great stones enclosing the monument of "Leacht-Chun-Ruis," the Monument of Cu-ruis, the fabled champion. The modern spoilers who robbed it to make the wall of the Deerpark have left the foundation which was too massive to move. You are now viewing what ranks as the most interesting Stone-Age monument, possibly in the world. It probably began at its present West end, starting as a series of megalithic tombs roofed with great slabs and then unified as a stony pyramid, but a convex forecourt was left, the whole making a "Horned Carn" such as is found in West Scotland and N.E. Ireland. The unique feature in Co. Sligo is the extension of the forecourt by adding standing stones till they nearly met and formed a ceremonial enclosure. Next a set of tombs were added to the Eastern extremity making what the late Dr. Mahr christened a Lobster-Claw Carn.

INISHFREE

You will find it hard to do justice to the Cairn for the view grips one: the bays glinting in the West and the call of the Slieve Gamv (Ox Mountains) fading away in purples in the far South-West. Quite close below is Lough Gill and, yes, Inishfree is visible, the tiny bare isle in the S.E. extremity of Lough Gill, quite commonplace among such a wealth of noble scarps and waters, but happy in the sound of its name—which means "Heather-island." One of the high, narrow plateaux away to the East is "O'Rourke's Table" of Swift's poem where

O'Rourke gave the feast that "will ne'er be forgot by those who were there and those who were not."

OUR CASHELS AND LISSES

Before you leave, walk downhill towards Lough Gill, bearing right, and in the next field you come to the ruin of a great circular Cashel. You can still trace the walls ten feet thick with which our ancestors had to fortify the domestic earth-girt Lios, when the lawlessness of the Dane (and later of the Norman) put an end to the peaceful Gaelic civilisation that had attracted persecuted European refugees for the four centuries before 800 A.D. The underground store-room has been unroofed but it is the visible witness of a more benign climate than our phase of dampness.

All over the district there is the spectacle of the peaceful earthen Lios developed to the walled Caiseal. If you are journeying to Bundoran, enquire for Cashelgarron. Bear right at Haran's public house, and above you is the noble Cashelbaun with Benbulbin behind, and before you the plain of Carbury, a "fastness" in 1700 but now developed to busy green farms and white homesteads dotted right out to where the ring of sand welcomes the white foam of the leaping Atlantic.

Still nearer Sligo is the great Lios of Lisnalgur, also close to the Bundoran road, which has the highest mound recorded for any Lios.

The real profit from these excursions is the beauty of the land. Monuments merely add an extra facet to the enjoyment and bring a pointed climax to the scenic beauty.

SLIGO ABBEY

In the town itself there is Sligo Abbey, which you can see at leisure. Note that there is no "repetition work" in the stone-carving of the Norman-trained sculptors who introduced the pointed arch to Ireland. It is this personal devotion that informs their stone mouldings with something far above our workaday life.

CREEVYKEEL (Mullaghmore)

At the cross-roads of Creevykeel where the bye-road for Mullaghmore departs from the main Sligo-Bundoran road there is another Stone-Age "Tomb-and-Courtyard" monument like that of Magherahanrush (Deerpark) already described. Beside the main road, it is very accessible, and furthermore it has been cleared of accidental rubbish by grants from Harvard University. The reader will find the description similar to that already given for the Magherahanrush monument.

SUGGESTED WALKS ROUND SLIGO.

DESTINATION.	VIEW.	ROUTE.	APPROXIMATE RETURN MILEAGE
1. Cairns Hill	Lough Gill and Environs. Sligo City.	Pearse Road to 'Phone Kiosk, then left.	2½ miles.
2. Holy Well	Lough Gill and Environs. Northern Mountains.	As above, and follow Lakeside Road. Return can be made via Green Road.	4 miles.
3. Doorly Park	Lower reaches of Lough Gill. Hazelwood Demesne.	Corcoran's Mall, Riverside. Following River bank all the way.	Up to 2 miles.
4. Ardaghowen	Lower reaches of Lough Gill. Cleveragh Demesne. Ramble through Hazelwood.	The Mall. Right turn at lane, 200 yds. beyond Co. Hospital. Follow lane.	4 miles.
5. Deepwater	Sligo Bay, lower reaches.	Via Town Hall to Custom House and thence along Quays.	2½ miles.
6. Circular Rd.	Panorama of Sligo. View of Sligo Bay and Mountains.	Via John St. and Summerhill College and back via Pearse Rd.	1½ miles.
7. Gibraltar	Sligo Bay and Coney Island.	Via Finisklin. Left turn. Second do. Right turn and back via Strandhill Road.	3½ miles.

CO. SLIGO SEASIDE RESORTS

There are four major seaside resorts in County Sligo viz:—

ENNISCRONE

This charmingly situated resort on Killala Bay is 36 miles distant from Sligo, and is on the main Sligo-Ballina Bus route. Perfectly safe bathing is afforded and there are $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of strand. Diving can be obtained from the Pier-head, and there are modern Salt-water Baths. There is an interesting 9 hole Golf Course, and Tennis, Angling and Boating facilities are also available. Dances are regularly held in the Season under ideal Ballroom conditions, and there is also a modern cinema. Sea Fishing Trips can be arranged privately with local fishermen. Indoor amusements are provided in the Pavilion which houses a branch of the County Library. Bus Tours are arranged to surrounding beauty spots during the Summer season. Other attractions are: Enniscrone Annual Show, Swimming Galas, Children's Sand Competitions and Fancy Dress Parades.

MULLAGHMORE

Mullaghmore is a very pretty seaside resort on the North Sligo coast, and is 17 miles distant from Sligo. It is reached via the main Sligo-Bundoran Road as far as Creevykeel. At this latter point a branch road to the north leads to Mullaghmore which is about 1 mile distant. Capital Bathing may be enjoyed from the extensive strand. Boating and Angling facilities are available, and there are magnificent Cliff walks and Cliff Scenery with superb views of Donegal Bay and the mountains of Donegal and Sligo. Classiebawn Castle is in the immediate vicinity and sea-trips to Innismurray Island (now uninhabited) may be made.

ROSSES POINT

Rosses Point is situated on the north side of Sligo Bay at a distance of 5 miles from Sligo. There is an excellent Bus Service. The Point is justly famous for its 18 hole championship Golf Course, which is regarded as possibly the best in Ireland. The West of Ireland Golf Championship takes place at this venue each year at Easter, as well as other major events from time to time. Bathing may be enjoyed from the fine stretch of strand, and special facilities exist for diving and swimming in the shape of recently constructed Ladies' and Men's Pools.

Fishing and shooting are afforded, and there are good Dancing facilities. Bathing ideal for children.

STRANDHILL

Strandhill is placed on the peninsula dividing Sligo Bay from Ballisodare Bay, and is 5 miles distant from Sligo. A good and regular Bus Service provides the connection with Sligo. Miles of excellent Beach provide Bathing either on the Main Strand or on Culleenamore Strand. The village lies at the foot of Knocknarea, a mountain of 1,096 feet, easily ascended from Strandhill and affording magnificent views of the Ox Mountains, Lough Gill, the North Sligo Mountains, and the Hills of Donegal. Two other interesting items are the Glen, a remarkable rock fissure, and Killaspugbrone, a ruined church of great antiquity, charmingly environed. An attractive Golf Course of 9 holes with Clubhouse (licensed) is picturesquely situated. Fishing, shooting, and excellent salt-water Baths are among other facilities of the resort, while for dancers one of the finest Ballrooms in Connacht is available.



MULLAGHMORE, CO. SLIGO

—Photo : I.T.A.

THE GOLDEN STRANDS OF COUNTY SLIGO

Perhaps the greatest scenic treasure of County Sligo is the wealth of unspoiled sandy beaches which stretch for miles and miles along the coastline.

Starting at the northern boundary of the county the first big strand we meet is **Bunduff**, close to Mullaghmore. South of Mullaghmore are **Trawalua** and **Trawnavannoge**, together making nearly 5 miles of glorious golden sand. At present, Trawnavannoge can only be approached via a rough track.

Streedagh, a delightful little beach with wide "greenlands" and rock scenery, can be reached from Grange on the main Bundoran road.

The Yellow Strand between Knocklane and Raughley, is next. South of Raughley are the **Ardtarmon** and **Lissadell**

ROSSES
POINT



Photo: I.T.A.

strands which expand into broad sandflats when the shallow tide recedes.

At **Rosses Point** and **Strandhill** there are great stretches of beach and "greenland."

At **Culleenamore**, to the south of Strandhill, there is a pretty semi-circular strand with an incomparable view, at low tide, across the sand banks of the estuary towards the Ox Mountains.

On the south coast, there are **Dunmoran** and, a little further west, **Killrusheighter** Strands. Both may be approached near Skreen on the Sligo-Ballina road or from Aughris.

Finally, running up to the Mayo border, is Enniserone with nearly two miles of lovely strand.

NORTH COUNTY SLIGO

Drumcliffe, five miles from Sligo on the main Sligo-Bundoran road, contains the only Round Tower in the County. In a fine state of preservation it stands on the West side of the road while adjacent is the famous sculptured cross, a "gem amongst antiquities."

In Drumcliffe Churchyard close by is the grave of W. B. Yeats, the famous poet, and on the Sligo side of the bridge crossing the Drumcliffe River stands the Rectory wherein he passed his boyhood.

Lissadell, the home of Countess Markievicz, nine miles from Sligo, is the seat of the Gore-Booth family and is a pretty wooded demesne. A pleasant walk may be taken by the courtesy of the owners through this estate with splendid views of the Sligo and Mayo coastlines.

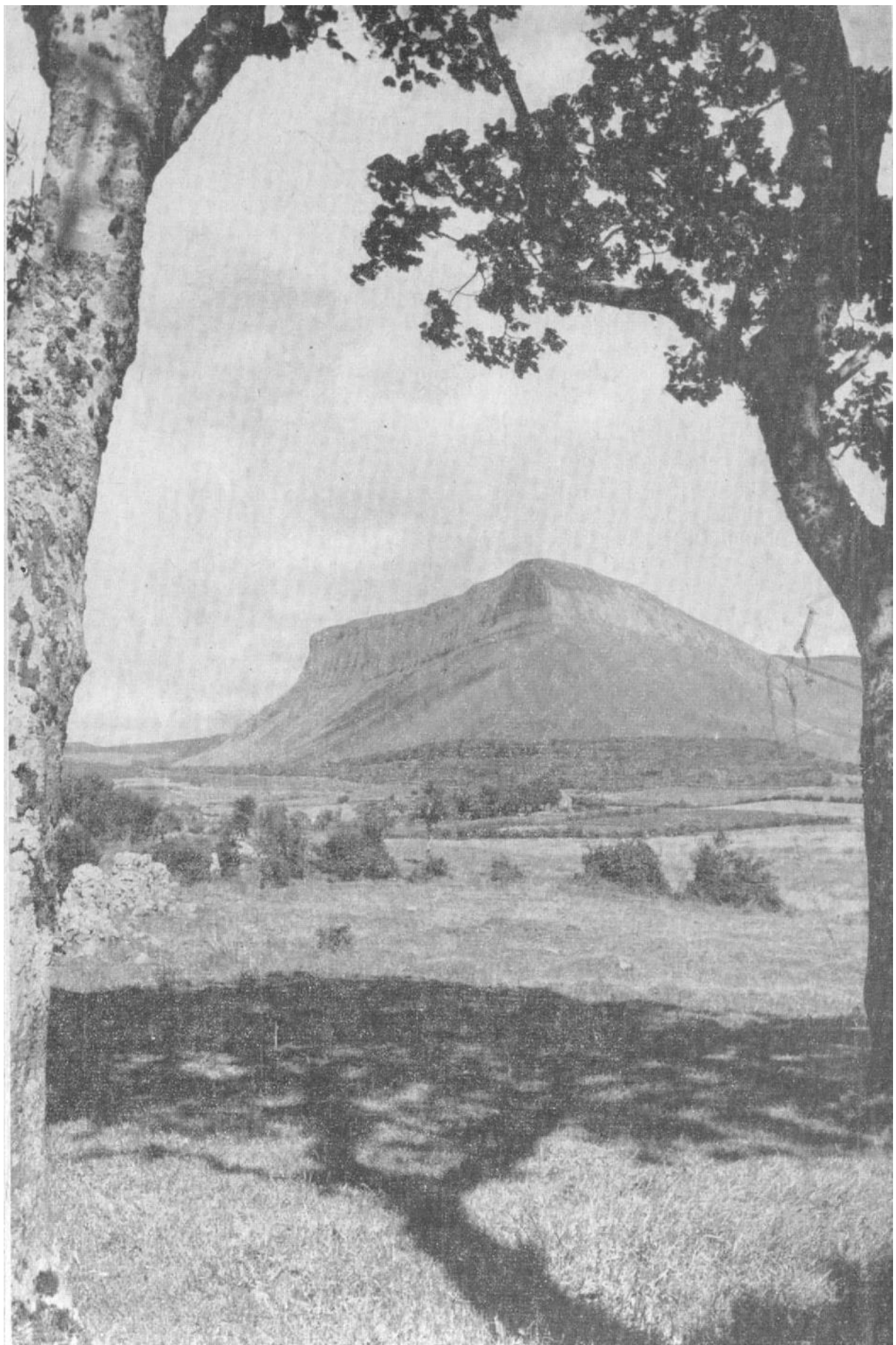
Raughley village with some fine coast scenery is reached about three miles further on the Lissadell road, with historic **Ardtarmon Castle** hard by, and pretty **Knocklane Strand**.

Benbulbin rises 1,722 feet and towers over the main Sligo-Bundoran road approaching Cashelgarron. This mountain viewed from any angle is one of the finest within these shores, and the view from the summit can hardly be surpassed. The base of the mountain can easily be reached by turning north from the main road at Milltown (1 mile past Drumcliffe) and the climb offers no particular difficulty.

Proceeding from Cashelgarron, a turn to the right at Muninane Chapel of Ease (1 mile on the Sligo side of Grange) places one on the road to Ballintrillick. The view of **Benweeskin** (1,700 ft.) is without question one of the finest in Ireland, but must be taken from the village of Ballintrillick itself to be fully appreciated.

A barely perceptible road into the mountains at this village leads into the remarkable cirque of **Gleniff** with its horseshoe road and fine outlook on Donegal Bay.

Innishmurray is about 8 miles from the mainland at Grange and is one of the historical islands of the West Irish Coast. The island is now uninhabited, but contains several items of interest to the visitor including its ecclesiastical ruins, and its "Cursing Stones." Continuing on the main road the village of **Grange** and **Cliffoney** are met, and the return journey may be made via Streedagh, Breaghwy and Ballinfull per a West fork in the road at Grange. At **Creevykeel** are Pagan remains. On the Benbulbin Mountains are to be found many rare plants, but the most remarkable feature is the *Arenaria Ciliata* which is not to be seen anywhere else in Ireland or Britain.



Glencar, Calry and Neighbourhood

Glencar Lake lies about 9 miles from Sligo and is reached via the main Manorhamilton Road. This beauty spot, more than half of which is in County Leitrim, is encircled by mountains. The Glencar Mountains, an Eastern continuation of the Benbulbin range, have many waterfalls descending on their Southern slopes to delight the onlooker. Two of these in particular are mentioned:—

Sruth-an-ai-anard, which means the stream against the height, exhibits the unusual spectacle of the waters apparently rushing upwards when the wind blows from a certain part.

Glencar Waterfall, easily accessible from the lakeside road, is a remarkably pretty waterfall in a fairy-like dell.

The new Land Commission Road leads high into the mountains and branches from the lakeside road not far from Glencar Waterfall. Steep and rough it is nevertheless worth an ascent for the sake of the fine view of the lake and neighbouring mountains.

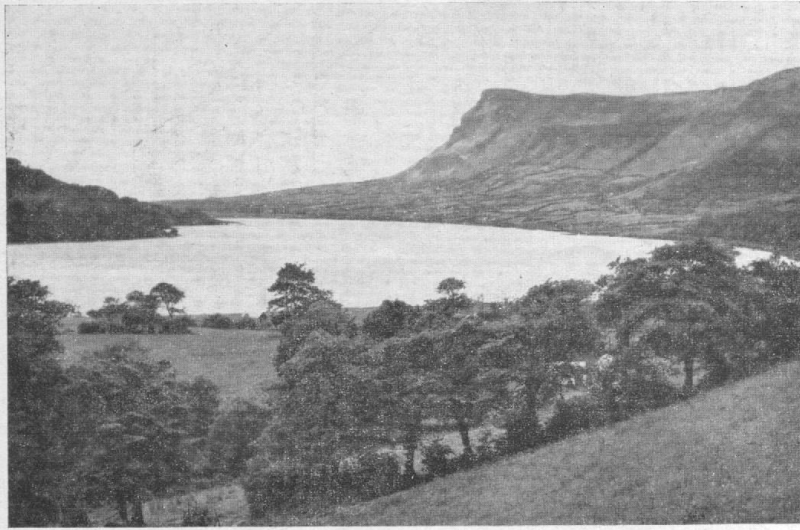
From this road, the famous **Swiss Valley** may be reached in a Westerly direction.

On the Sligo side of Lugnagal mountain on the Glencar road a branch road to the east leads to **Glackbawn**, where wild scenery predominates. The descent from Glackbawn may be made to the South via **Keelogyboy** road, with the impressive mountain of Keelogyboy in the East.

Colga Lake is best viewed from the Dromahaire-Sligo Road and is about 4 miles from Sligo. On the shore of this pretty sheet of water stands the ancient graveyard of Clogher.

The **Deerpark Monuments** near at hand will repay a visit, and are best described as a Stonehenge in miniature. Apart from the antiquities, a superb view is afforded from the heights of Deerpark.

Sligo Waterworks—The Reservoir at Kilsellagh, high up in the Calry Mountains, contains a more than ample supply for a city even greater in population than Sligo.



GLENCAR LAKE, CO. SLIGO.

Photo : I.T.A.

THE OX MOUNTAINS & NEIGHBOURHOOD

This long and picturesque chain of mountains stretches from Collooney into the County of Mayo. Through these hills there are five main gaps all of which are worthy of a visit for the sake of the scenery.

Coming from Sligo and turning right at Ballisodare on to the main Sligo-Ballina road the gaps in order are as follows:—

1. **Coney Gap**—This the shortest of the gaps commences a little distance past Corhowna Chapel. An interesting ascent gives a good view over Sligo Bay, and the descent leaves one at Kinagrelly.

2. **Hungry Rock Gap**—This is a fascinating journey and commences about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles past the Coney road, the signpost indicating Coolaney. At the top of a prettily wooded brae the Hungry Rock itself may be found by the roadside. The legend in this connection is that would-be travellers of the Gap were supposed to leave stones on the face of the Hungry Rock to avoid ill-luck. The country on top of the mountain is exceptionally picturesque and will well repay a visit.

3. **Ladies' Brae** (900 ft.)—A short distance before the graveyard at Gerib, a road to the south leads to the foot of this steep climb. At the foot of the Brae, a short detour across the moor gives access to Lough Achree, the youngest lake in Ireland and of volcanic origin. A well graded road takes one to the top from which a fine panorama may be enjoyed.

4. **Lough Easkey Pass**—Past Dromore West village, a half-mile on the main Ballina road, a good road leads towards Dromore and the mountains. A vista of limitless bog can be viewed further on and later the pretty expanse of Lough Easkey is reached. The road is not good but leads through some fine mountain scenery through Masshill to Mullaney's Cross.

5. **Lough Talt Gap**—The main road Tubbercurry-Ballina constitutes this pass. Lough Talt is a gem among the Sligo lakes set among encircling hills.

Ballisodare, 5 miles from Sligo contains the 7th Century ruins of St. Fechin's Abbey, and is noted for its salmon fishing.

Collooney, 7 miles from Sligo, is a pretty village near which was fought the battle of Carrick-na-gat in the Rising of 1798.

Coolaney about 5 miles from Collooney is in the heart of the Ox mountain country. The picturesque Old Bridge with the trees growing from the arches is hard by, while the Holy Well of Tubber Tullaghan, is also not far distant.

The Knocknarea Country

This portion of the County consists of the peninsula between Ballisodare Bay and Sligo Bay and is bounded to the landward by the main Dublin Road.

The **Carrowmore Circles and Cairns** are world famous, and form the second largest group of such antiquities existing. They are best reached via the Magheraboy Road with a left turn beyond the Borough Boundary. The monuments are 2 miles distant from Sligo.

Following the Seafield Road on past the Monuments, the mountain of **Knocknarea** (1,096 ft.) dominates the foreground. The prominent cairn on the top of the mountain is the legendary burial place of the Hero-Queen of Connacht, Maeve, and is of great dimensions.

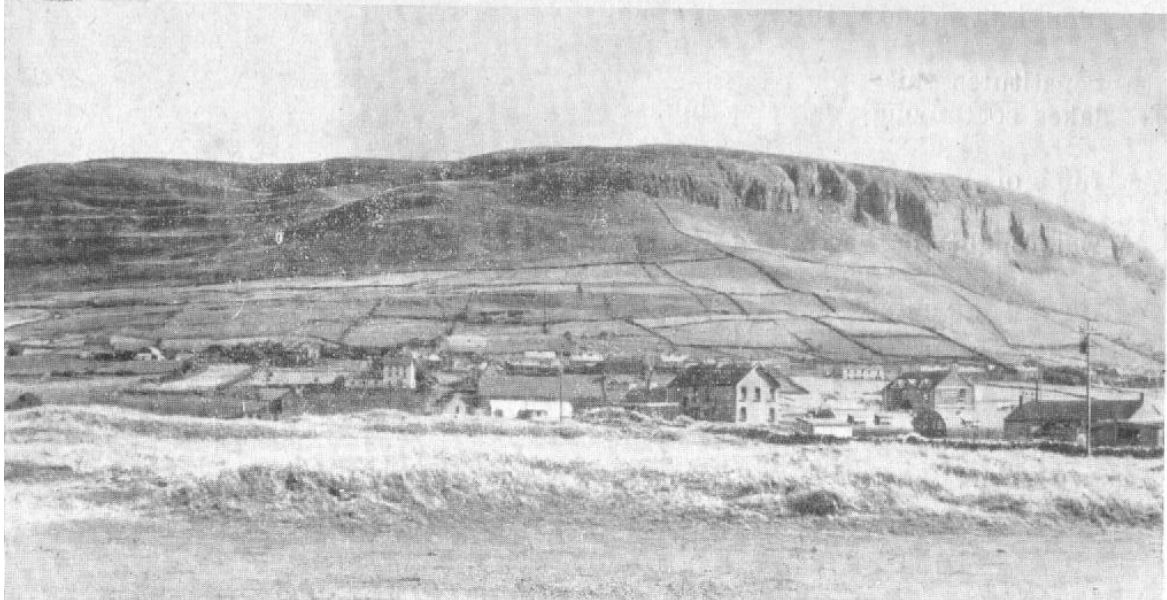
Still following this road, **Culleenamore** is reached. Here is one of the finest prospects in the County. The small village nestles at the foot of the steep precipices which form the Southern face of Knocknarea, is prettily wooded, and is also on the sea-verge.

Passing through **Strandhill**, described elsewhere, the main road to Sligo affords some superb views as it winds over the northern slopes of the hill. Two miles along this road, a turn to the North leads to **Coney Island**.

This island may be reached at low tide along a track over the strand indicated by pillars, and unlike Innismurray is well inhabited. The island will well repay a visit, which may be made either as indicated above or via Rosses Point per boat.

STRANDHILL AND KNOCKNAREA,

Photo : Toher's Studio.



BALLYMOTE & DISTRICT

Ballymote is a pleasantly situated, modern town 14 miles from Sligo. The ruins of a Franciscan Friary may be seen, where was compiled the famous "Book of Ballymote" in 1391. Also to be viewed are the ruins of Ballymote Castle which cover a large area, and are flanked by six towers. An up-to-date cinema, of pleasing design, provides evening recreation and the town also contains the Corran Park, one of the leading Gaelic playing fields in Connacht.

At **Keash** on the Boyle road 3 to 4 miles from Ballymote, may be explored the extensive hill caves. Archaeologists have proved that here once roved the sabre-toothed tiger and the bear, from remains found in these caves.

Passing through **Gurteen** the road leads to **Lough Gara**, a fine fishing lake on the Sligo-Roscommon border. In this area is to be found the ancient fortress, **Moygara Castle**.

Near **Monasteraden** is a famous Holy Well dedicated to St. Attracta.

TUBBERCURRY & DISTRICT

Tubbercurry is a busy town and the main gateway to the Southern Ox Mountains. Tubbercurry Convent, a well-designed Parish Church and the Technical School are among the principal buildings and the town possesses a most modern Parochial Hall and Cinema. Situated 21 miles from Sligo and on the main road to Galway, Tubbercurry will well repay a visit. Tubbercurry is noted for its Dramatic activities and is the centre each year for the Western Drama Festival.

In this area is historic **Court Abbey** and the neighbouring fairy mountain of **Knocknashee**. Also in the general area above described are the pleasant demesnes of Templehouse, Annaghmore and Markree.

A short distance from Tubbercurry is the historic village of **Bunninadden** where the visitor may inspect the remains of the old church and castle.

TIRERAGH & DISTRICT

Tireragh, the land of the Hy Fiachra, consists roughly of that portion of County Sligo between the Ox Mountains and the sea.

Passing through the prettily wooded country at **Beltra** on the main Sligo-Ballina road, the interesting memorial of **Skreen Monument** is reached and the picturesquely hilly country round Skreen itself.

At Skreen, a signposted turn towards the sea leads to **Aughris Head**. The exact road is hard to determine but if the telegraph poles are followed almost to the end this will bring the traveller to the little harbour of Aughris whence the journey on foot may be made over the cliffs. The view from here of Ballisodare Bay, Sligo Bay, the Sligo Mountains, and far off Donegal Bay and the Hills beyond can rarely be excelled.

The coast road should be taken at **Dromore West** to reach **Easkey**, in which neighbourhood is the famous "Split Rock" of which many tales are told.

Further on this coast road is **Enniscrone** to which we refer separately, and in which vicinity is the historic citadel of the McFirbises, the Castle of Lecan.

ENNISCRONE, CO. SLIGO.

—Photo : Nicholson, Enniscrone.



The South-East

Lough Arrow, a large stretch of water, is reached via the main Sligo-Boyle road, at Ballinafad. This area formed the background for the famous adventures of "Willy Reilly and his Colleen Bawn."

Ballinafad itself, a village at the foot of the Curlew Mountains, and 20 miles from Sligo, contains the ruins of its old castle.

Curlew Mountains rise immediately beyond Lough Arrow and form the boundary at this point between Sligo and Roscommon. The view from their heights embraces Lough Gara, Lough Arrow, Lough Key and Rockingham and Hollybrook Demesnes.

Killery Old Church reached via the south road to Dromahaire is on the shore of Lough Gill, and there may be seen the famous "straining thread" which is supposed to be a cure for sprains.

Ballindoon Abbey, the Cairn at Heapstown, the Monuments at **Moytirra** and the "**Labby**" are all interesting antiquities which may be viewed in this area of South-East Sligo.

At **Hollybrook** are to be found Bee-hive Huts.

Finely designed modern Catholic Churches should be visited at **Riverstown** and **Ballintogher**.

General Information

AMUSEMENTS AND GENERAL INFORMATION RE SLIGO CITY AND ENVIRONS

CINEMAS:

Gaiety Cinema, Wine Street, Sligo. Savoy Cinema, High Street, Sligo. Modern cinemas. Usual prices. Nightly Shows at 8.15 p.m. Matinees: Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

TENNIS:

Merville Lawn Tennis Club, Magheraboy Road, Sligo. Y.M.C.A. Lawn Tennis Club, Finisklin Road, Sligo. West of Ireland Championships each July in Y.M.C.A. Grounds.

DANCING:

Ritz Ballroom, O'Connell Street, Sligo. Town Hall Ballroom, Quay Street, Sligo. Plaza Ballroom, Strandhill. Elsinore Ballroom and Golf Links Hotel, Rosses Point. As advertised.

BOATING :

Sligo Bay Sailing Club (Headquarters: Rosses Point). Riverside, Sligo. Boats are available for hire for pleasure trips up the Garavogue to Lough Gill.

MOTOR TRIPS :

There are many Hackney Cars for Hire, and "Drive-on-your-own" vehicles may also be hired.

BUS TOURS TO LOUGH GILL, DONEGAL, GLENCAR, MAYO, ETC.

The G.N.R. (Quay Street), C.I.E. (Railway Station) and S.L.N.C.R. (Gray's Inn) organise Tours as advertised. Full details of Tours from Tourist Bureau. 'Phone 436.

ANNUAL EVENTS :

Feis Shligigh, Town Hall, Sligo. Feis Ceoil, Gillooly Hall, Sligo. These take place each year at Easter, and are regarded as outstanding musical and cultural events from a National viewpoint as well as from a local viewpoint. Co. Sligo Agricultural Show, biggest in the West, takes place each mid-August.

POINT-TO-POINT RACES :

At Cairns Hill, near Sligo, by Co. Sligo Harriers each St. Patrick's Day.

COURSING :

Annual Meeting each November.

CONTRACT BRIDGE :

The County Sligo Bridge Club, Castle Street, Sligo, is one of the largest in the country. The C.Y.M.S. Bridge Club is in Quay Street, and there is also a Bridge Club in Strandhill. Visitors, if introduced by a member, may normally take part in the tournaments.

CHESS :

An active Club meets weekly in season at Cafe Cairo.

TABLE TENNIS AND BADMINTON :

There are many clubs in Sligo and also clubs in Collooney, Rosses Point and Strandhill. There are also several Badminton Clubs.

G.A.A. :

No week passes without keenly contested Gaelic games in all parts of the county. The principal ground is the Corran Park in Ballymote. Hurling and Handball games also take place in various County centres.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL:

Sligo Rovers' F.C. is the only senior Soccer team west of the Shannon. Home games take place in the Show Grounds: normally once a fortnight during the season—August-April.

SWIMMING:

Active Swimming Club which holds an annual Gala.

REGATTAS:

Three annual regattas take place on Lough Gill.

MOTOR SPORT:

The Connacht Motor Club, 14 O'Connell St., Sligo, holds Trials and Speed Events during the year.

STAGE AND DRAMA:

Sligo is one of the leading provincial centres of Drama and there are several excellent companies engaged in this art.

TOURIST INFORMATION BUREAU: Quay Street. 'Phone 436.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION: Particulars from this Office.

TRANSPORT CENTRES: Railway Station, Lord Edward St., for C.I.E. trains and buses and S.L.N.C.R. trains. Bus Office, Quay St. for G.N.R. buses. Bus Office Gray's Inn, Stephen St., for S.L.N.C.R. buses.

POST OFFICES: General—O'Connell Street. Sub—Castle Street and Upper John Street.

GARDA BARRACKS: Pearse Road.

MARKET DAY: Saturday. **HALF-HOLIDAY:** Wednesday. at 1 p.m.

HOW TO TRAVEL TO SLIGO**RAIL—**

From Dublin: Westland Row via Mullingar. **From Galway:** via Athenry. **From Belfast:** via Clones or Omagh.

ROAD—

From Dublin: via Mullingar. **From Galway:** via Dunmore. **From Derry:** Through County Donegal.

Fishing and recreations in County Sligo

ANGLING

Lough Gill—Holding Salmon, Trout and coarse fish. Season commences 1st February. May Fly Season—This lasts about a month from (approximately) May 20th and gives capital sport. Information—Ex Sligo Anglers' Association per Mr. J. A. McLoghry, Town Hall, Sligo.

Glencar River—Containing Trout and Salmon. Information—Per Sligo Anglers' Association above. Permission to be obtained from G. E. Wilson, Esq., and others.

Glencar Lake—Containing Trout and Salmon. Information—Per Sligo Anglers' Association above. Permission to be obtained from G. E. Wilson, Esq., and others.

Colga Lake—Large Brown Trout. Special Points—Angling in the evening from May to September best. Free.

Lough Arrow—Containing Brown Trout. Special Points—Lake regarded as one of the best trout lakes in the country. Information—Hollybrook Hotel, Ballinacree, Co. Sligo; Lough Arrow Fish Preservation Society, Castlebaldwin, Co. Sligo.

Easkey River—Containing Sea Trout. Ballina area.

Drumcliffe River—Containing Sea and Brown Trout and Salmon. Information—Sligo Anglers' Association, or the Board of Conservators, Teeling Street, Sligo.

Lough Easkey—Containing Brown Trout. Information—Ex hotels in vicinity.

Lough Talt—Containing Trout. Special Point—Fishing Free. Ballina area.



DRIVING OFF FROM 13th TEE—COUNTY SLIGO GOLF CLUB.

Photo: Toher's Studio.

Lough Gara—Containing Trout. Special Point—Fishing Free. Information—Lough Gara Anglers' Association, Mullaghroe, Gurteen.

Ballysodare River—Salmon Fishing, but waters private.

GOLF

County Sligo Golf Club, Rosses Point. 18 hole Championship Course. Club House (licensed). Annual event: West of Ireland Golf Championship. Resident Professional.

Strandhill Golf Club, Strandhill. 9 hole seaside course. Club House (licensed).

Tubbercurry Golf Club—9 hole inland course, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Tubbercurry. Club House.

Ballymote Golf Club—9 hole inland course, a short distance from Ballymote. Club House.

Enniscrone Golf Club—9 hole Seaside Links. Club House.

HUNTING

Collooney, Coolaney, Ballisodare—South County Sligo Harriers. Information from Lt.-Com. Cooper.

North County Sligo, etc.—Co. Sligo Harriers. Details from Mr. P. Anderson, Colga, Calry, Sligo.

SHOOTING

Excellent free shooting at Easkey. Good shooting at Strandhill, Mullaghmore, Rosses Point, etc.

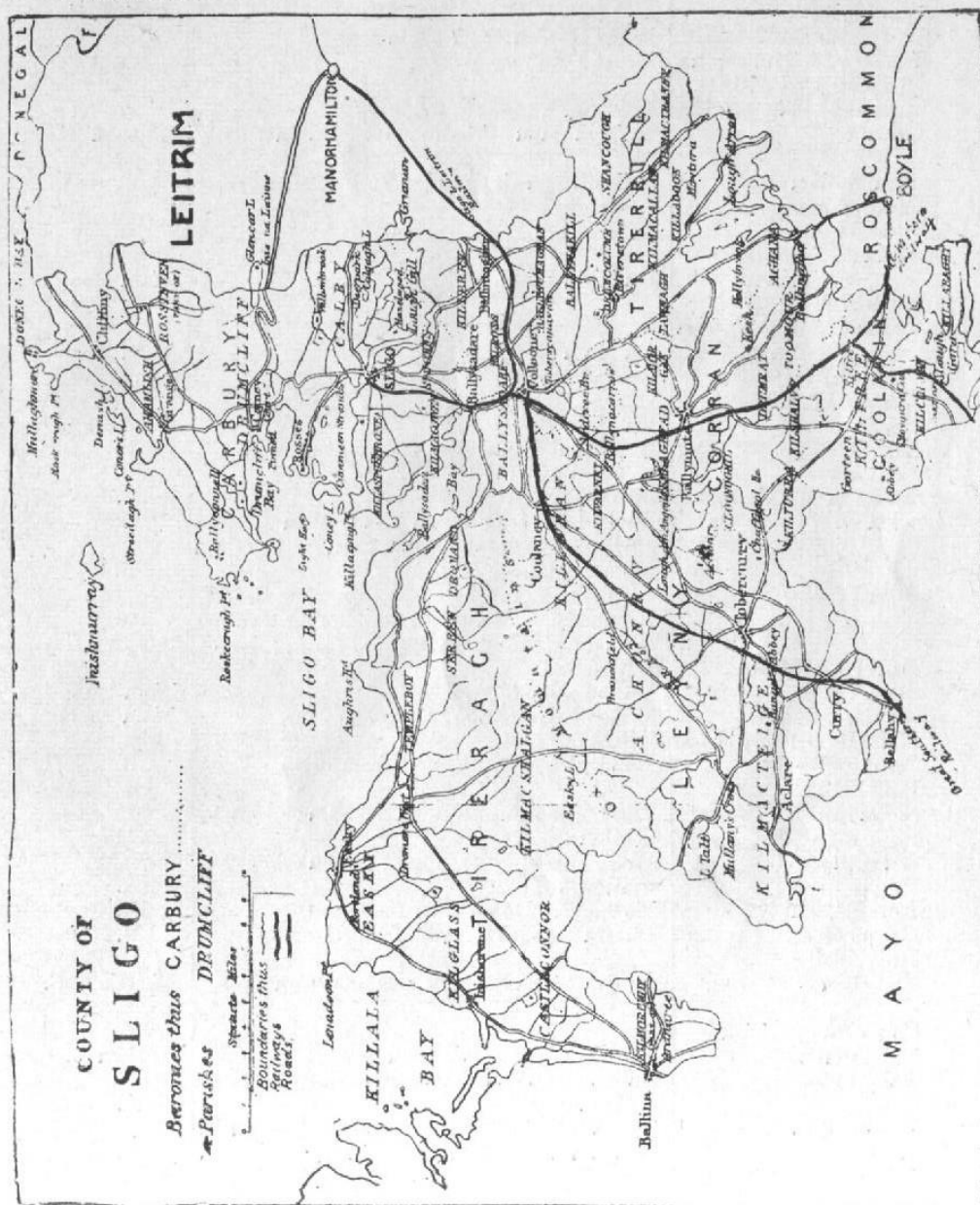
MAPS AND GUIDES TO THE SLIGO AREA

One inch to a mile Ordnance Survey: sheets 43, 54, 55, 65 and 66. Half-inch to a mile Ordnance Survey: sheet 7. Quarter inch to a mile Bartholomew: sheet 1.

The Irish Tourist Association publishes a folder on the Counties of Sligo and Donegal and a Guide to the Province of Connacht.

The Directory of the Irish Tourist Board lists and classifies the hotels of Ireland.

Useful maps are to be found in the C.I.E. and G.N.R. Timetables.



ROAD GUIDE TO COUNTY SLIGO

NOTES—Routes are grouped under their respective main roads. Left and right turns off these roads are based on the presumption that the tourist is approaching **from** Sligo.

Condition of road from point of leaving main roads classified thus: A—Tarred. B—Not tarred but quite good. C—Poor. S—Steep.

Destination.	Turn Off At	Condition of Branch Road.
BALLINA ROAD.		
Coney Gap	L. Approx. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. past Corhowna Chapel	C.
Hungry Rock	L. Signpost to Coolaney	B.
Ladies' Brac	L. Just past Cemetery at Gerib	C. & S.
Lough Eskey	L. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile past Dromore West	A. then C.
Aughris Head	R. At Skreen. Details in text	C.
Eskey & Enniscrone	R. At Dromore West	A.
BUNDORAN ROAD.		
Lissadell & Raughley	L. Past Drumcliffe Bridge	A.
Gleniff	R. Munninane Crossroads, R. Ballintrillick	A. then C. & S.
Ben Bulbin	R. Milltown Crossroads, L. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile later	C.
Mullaghmore	L. Creevykeel	A.
Streedagh	L. Grange	A.
Grange, Drumcliffe & Cliffoney	On Main Road	Main Road
DUBLIN ROAD.		
Ballisodare, Collooney & Ballinzed	On Main Road.	Main Road
Lough Arrow	At Ballinzed	Main Road
GALWAY ROAD.		
Tubbercurry	On Main Road	Main Road
Lough Telt	R. At Tubbercurry Railway Station	B.
Coolaney	R. At start of Collooney	B.
NORTH MANORHAMILTON ROAD.		
Glencar	Cover Lake from main road, then L. and cover by low lake road, then L. to rejoin main road.	B.
Swiss Valley	As above to lakeside. R. up new Land Commission Road. L. at Timber Camp $\frac{3}{4}$ mile on, by foot, thence.	S & C
NORTH DROMAHAIRE ROAD.		
Lough Gill & Castle	Road winds by lakeside	Main Road
Lough Colga	Road passes above lake.	Main Road
SOUTH DROMAHAIRE ROAD.		
Dooney Rock	Road passes R. $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Sligo.	B.
GENERAL.		
Strandhill	West Road ex Sligo passing Railway Station.	A.
Knocknaree	West Road ex Sligo passing Railway Station.	A.
Rosses Point	Markievicz Road, then L.	A.
Cairns Hill	Dublin Road, L. $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from Courthouse	B.
Holy Well	Ditto.	B.
The Glen	As for Strandhill. L. past Cullenmore	A. then C. & S.
Carrowmore Monuments.	Maugheraboy Road, then L.	A. then B.
Ballymote	Galway Road and L. at Signpost 2 mile from Collooney	A.
Lough Gara	As Ballymote. Through Ballymote then R. L. again at Gurteen.	A.



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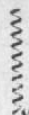
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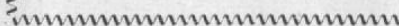


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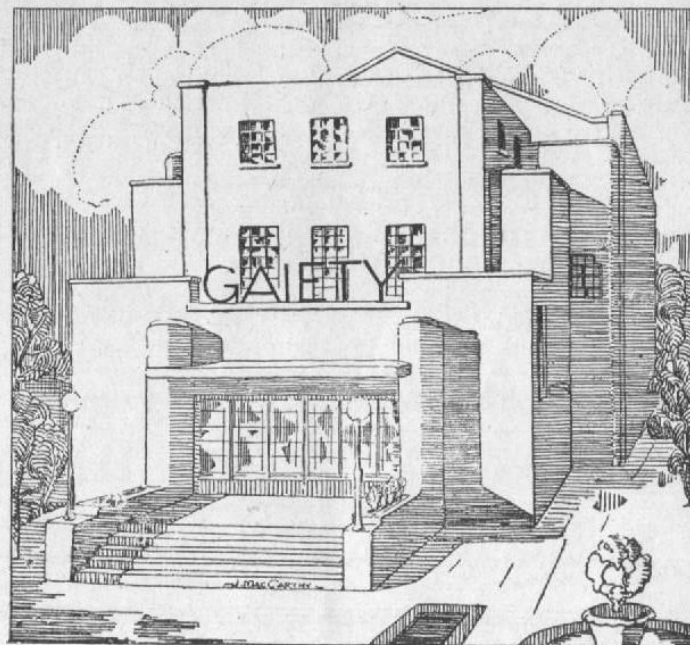
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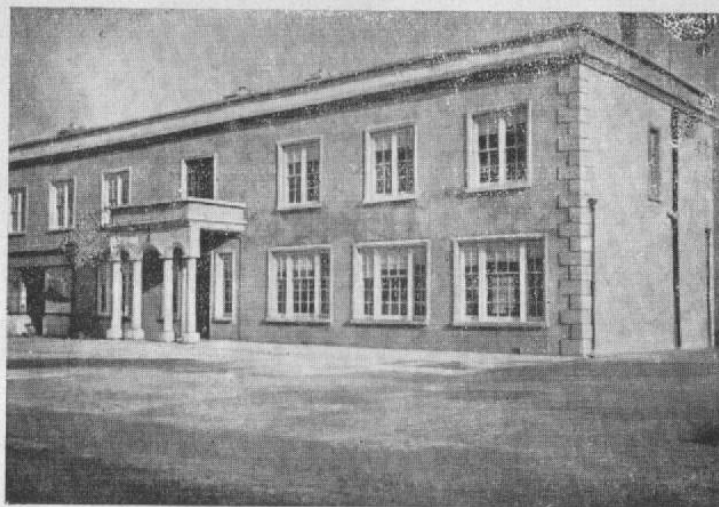
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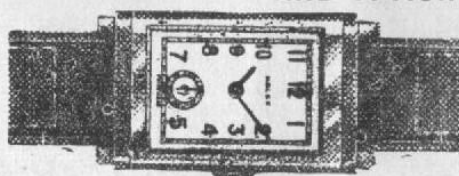
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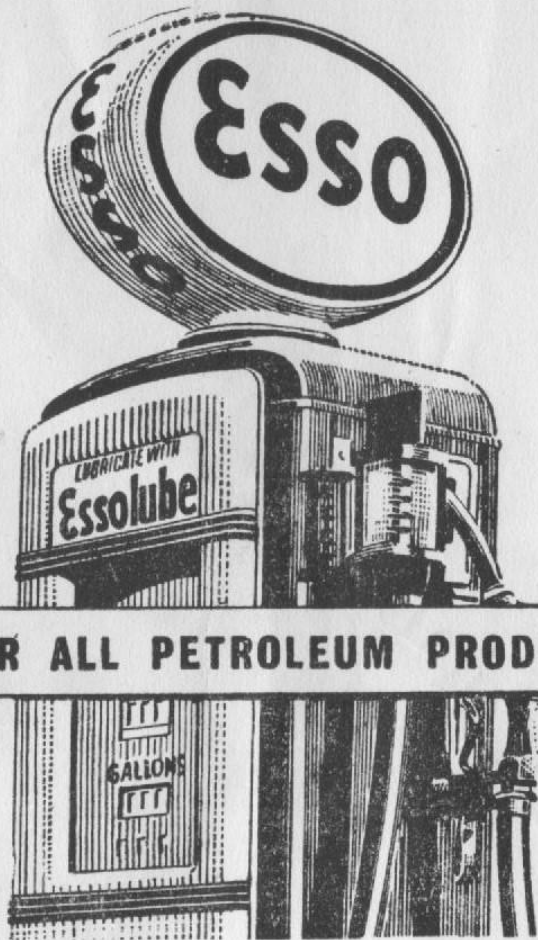
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